

The Redemptorist Fathers opened a mission at the Bluff on Monday last, and will be engaged in other parts of the Invercargill parish during the next three weeks. A mission opens in Waikouaiti on Friday, at Port Chalmers on Sunday, and at St. Leonards on Monday. The South Dunedin mission opens on Sunday, November 10, and closes on November 24.

The pupils of St. Joseph's Convent School, Port Chalmers, gave a dramatic entertainment before a packed audience in the Foresters' Hall on Friday evening. Many intending patrons of the entertainment were, we understand, unable to secure admission. The children did remarkably well, and their performance was highly creditable to the good Sisters, who must have devoted considerable time and attention to their training. The Rev. Father Hearn, who presided, thanked the audience for their attendance and the pupils for their successful performance.

Oamaru

(From our own correspondent.)

October 28.

The following pupils of Rosary Convent, Oamaru, were successful at the examinations held on Saturday, October 26, by Mr. Edwards, examiner for Trinity College, London (full marks 100, honors 80, pass 60).—Intermediate grade—Florence Reid, 82, honors (singing); Mollie Dore, 80, honors (piano). Junior grade—Annie Lynch, 96, honors; Ailis, Molloy, 92, honors; Maggie Ardagh, 80, honors; Julia O'Meara, 77. Preparatory grade—Kitty Ardagh, 95; Lily Grant, 89; Isabella McCone, 85.

The pupils of our two Catholic teachers, were very successful at the recent examinations held by Mr. Edwards. The pupils of Miss Cartwright, A.T.C.L., were:—Intermediate—H. Cartwright, 84 (honors). Junior Division—E. Cartwright, 97 (honors). Preparatory Division—A. Archibald, 106 (honors), M. Cartwright, 93 (honors), J. Glynn, 90 (honors). Miss Falconer's pupils who secured honors in Preparatory were:—Master J. Stevens, 93, K. Murray, 92.

The members of the local branch of the H.A.C.B. Society received Holy Communion in a body at the 8.30 o'clock Mass on Sunday. There was a very large muster of members, who, in full regalia, marched from St. Patrick's Hall to the Basilica. At the same Mass the Children of Mary Confraternity also approached the Holy Table in full strength of members. It was a most edifying sight to see these large bodies of mostly young people showing their devotion and faith in such a worthy manner, and the Rev. Father MacDermott congratulated the societies on their splendid musters, and the edification they gave.

The oratorical competition for a diploma of merit, conferred by the executive of the Federated Catholic Clubs, was held in the rooms of the local club on Friday evening last. Owing to the mission, the number of competitors was not large, but some excellent speeches were delivered. Mr. J. Wallace presided, and the Rev. Father O'Neill acted as judge. After hearing the speakers, the Rev. Father announced his decision in favor of Mr. Frank Cooney, a young and promising speaker, who gave a highly creditable address on 'Robert Emmet.' The result was received with loud applause.

The mission, conducted by the Redemptorist Fathers at St. Patrick's Basilica, which has been continued for over two weeks, was brought to a close on Sunday last by the Rev. Father MacDermott. The attendances at the Masses and evening devotions during the mission had been very large, but on the closing night the largest congregation probably that has filled the Basilica was present. The Rev. Father MacDermott preached a most impressive sermon, in which he exhorted the congregation to persevere, and remember their resolutions of the mission. He bade an affectionate farewell on behalf of the very Rev. Father Clune and himself, and paid a tribute to the unflinching kindness and help received from the local clergy, and the assistance from the Dominican Sisters, Altar Society, and choir. The Rev. Fathers are at present conducting missions in the country districts.

Wanganui

(From our own correspondent.)

October 25.

Two earthquake shocks were experienced on Tuesday afternoon.

The members of the Confraternity of the Children of Mary approached the Holy Table last Sunday at the early Mass at St. Mary's Church.

Another of our old parishioners in the person of Mr. Michael Cunningham passed away at the Hospital on Monday, at the age of 79.—R.I.P.

At the annual general meeting of the Wanganui Arts and Crafts Society it was resolved that the exhibition be held in the first week in December. Mrs. A. L. Kitchen was elected on the committee.

Our member, Mr. J. T. Hogan, M.H.R., made a speech in the House of Representatives on the Public Service Reform Bill, which aims at freeing the Railway employee and the civil servant from the Administration for the time being and putting them under some body or Board or under an Arbitration Act.

On Tuesday Mr. Martin T. Hearn, of Waverley, was united in the bonds of Matrimony to Miss A. B. Fisher, of Waitara. The ceremony took place at St. Joseph's Church, New Plymouth, the Rev. Father McManus officiating. The bridegroom was a member of St. Mary's Catholic Club, the members of which wish him all happiness.

Rimu

(From an occasional correspondent.)

A wedding which created no small amount of interest was celebrated at St. Mary's Church, Rimu, on Oct. 23. The contracting parties were Miss Annie Connolly, daughter of Mr. Patrick Connolly, of Rimu, and Mr. John Houlahan, son of the late Mr. Thomas Houlahan, of Stafford. The bride, who was given away by her father, looked charming in a gown of moire antique, trimmed with Maltese lace, and cream chiffon. She wore the usual wreath and veil, and carried a unique bouquet of azaleas and forget-me-nots. The bridesmaids were Misses Kate Connolly and M. Stephens, and Mr. Jeremiah Minehan was best man. The Rev. Father O'Connor performed the ceremony, and afterwards celebrated the Nuptial Mass. As the bridal party left the church, Miss Lizzie Knowles played the Wedding March. The wedding party then drove to the residence of the bride's parents. The bridegroom's present to the bride was a gold bangle, and that of the bride to bridegroom was a gold and greenstone pendant. The wedding presents were numerous and costly, which bore evidence to the popularity of the young couple. The happy pair are spending a short time in Ross before proceeding to the North Island. They carry with them, the good wishes of a large circle of friends.

DIOCESE OF AUCKLAND

(From our own correspondent.)

October 25.

The newly-established St. Vincent de Paul Conference at St. Benedict's is doing excellent work in the parish.

A league of cricketers in connection with the young men of the city and suburban churches has been formed, and the greatest enthusiasm is manifested, and some good games are anticipated.

The Rev. Father Bradley arrived last Sunday afternoon from Sydney. He gave Benediction at the Cathedral on Sunday evening. He will take up his duties at St. Benedict's parish.

Mr. C. Little, well known in Hibernian circles and in connection with the work of St. Vincent de Paul Conferences in Auckland, is, I regret to say, unwell, and is now in Cambridge by the order of his medical adviser. His many friends hope for his speedy recovery.

The balance sheets of last St. Patrick's Day celebration, the winter socials, and 'Maritana' performances were read to a large meeting in St. Patrick's Convent School, Hobson street, last Tuesday evening, Rev. Father Holbrook being in the chair. There were also present Rev. Fathers Furlong, Murphy, Farthing, and Bradley. On the motion of Mr. P. J. Nerheny, J.P., it was decided to appoint Mr. F. J. O'Meara and Mr. C. Thorne auditors for St. Patrick's Day accounts, and Mr. W. Kane and Mr. D. Flynn for the 'Maritana' accounts. On completion of the audits the statements will be again submitted to a general meeting.

The work in connection with the forthcoming bazaar is going steadily ahead. Another important work has been inaugurated in the Cathedral parish, which has been divided into districts. Two canvassers, after locating the Catholic residents therein, will call once in every month, and collect from them their subscription to the Cathedral building fund. A goodly sum is anticipated by this means. In Melbourne this proved to be the case. In connection with the scheme if it is proposed to issue a monthly magazine,